## EVELOPMENT OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY AND ITS FUTURE

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BY CONDICT C. PACKARD

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"The Journal is now making preparations for its annual Christmas Edition, and we hope this year to make it a bigger and better edition than ever. This Christmas Edition has come to be one of the big features of Pensacola journalism, and people have come to look upon it each succeeding year as a part of the Christmas season. I am writing you this letter to ask you to contribute an article on "The Development of Escambia County and its Future."

Frank L. Mayes, Editor."

One can only write regarding the

matters included in the above invitataken place within the knowledge of a whole the writer. My acquaintance with Escambia county does not yet cover a

dido river which fixes both the west- ingly and wisely work.

first supplied the wealth of this re- Since this country came under the the map. embowered in many a place by enor-er yet been a failure of the sugar and their great, gnarled trunks and acre of "cattle pen" tand, while 200 at times the river widens into well- mitted. nigh a bay, and thus creeps placidly Thus with corn and molasses the on to join the waters of the Gulf. Escambia farmer had only to grow his Santa Rosa island beyond.

cambia, merging into that greater the without fall in this region, inaway of admirable roadstead for fight- ord. of the world.

less extent into the livable territory, out that stress and strain which is a Garden. From Brownsville to Tampa taint of malaria arises. Indeed, there of at slight money cost. is not a foot of stagnant water in the Thus, while it has been demonstratern cities invited plague and p One can only write regarding the whole of this region which is Lower ed over and over again that as much lence, open sewers, which in atters included in the above invita. Escambia, a fact of no mean important as 50 and 60 bushels of shelled corn selves announced the medieval tion, as to what developments have ance in considering the county as a can be made from almost any of these tion and offered sights and

Agricultural Possibilities. decade; nence I must confine my ago, when it was regarded as idle farmer has been content with 20, or their suiftlessness in this re upon "what has been" to the vaporings to speak or write of the ag- at the most 30 bushels per acre as Memphis, Mobile, New Or period elapsing since this century ricultural possibilities resting in the his measure.

was born. banished these ancient rel it is thus easily seen how nature, vided underground drain city it is at least a full mile to the fort to the locality, and accepting that and discreet efforts. great wharves which throng the wide which nature provides. The long Already, however, there are num-own streets through which bay below. It easily follows, as a seasons, and the numerous crops crous examples throughout the countrian may pass without no ty, and the winding ways of the Per- yield abundance for whoever will will- from the soil.

was to be made, was for many general ing impossibility and a dozen years sand roads, through which p I am therefore asked to write of tions, a serious obstacle to those who since it was almost as much as a was nearly impossible, to this area, quite enough for a state, wished for a wider and befter Jevelop powerful pair of horses or mules could highways over which commerce and surpassing in magnitude many a ment. "Hog and hominy" could alprincipality and power in Europe; a ways be plentifully produced. Corn through the yielding sands which clogists of way. Today, territory where is a climate not surpassed in balm and benignity any- duce, acre for acre in Escambia coun. from Pensacola to Flomaton there with charming and costly homes where in the world, and within breath- ty, the equal crop with the famed stretches as pretty a plece of hard ing distance of the noblest bay this black bottoms of lower Illinois or of road as any country affords, and over shows the beginning of that wh country affords. A section along whose redoubtable Kansas itself. In fact, its entire 44 miles heavily aden wag. within another decade, will chang easterly borders flows the broad Escorn here is a sure and certain crop, one are easily moved. Other like that section into one of the most not cambia, following its way to the sea always returning handsomely to the past many a beetling hillside, where husbandman and with the slightest and in many directions the deep pubare still examples of those huge, murmuring pines, whose yellow excellence tion.

possible amount of care and cultivalic interest now manifested in this important feature of urban life are on

ion. Hillsides abound which are still plow of the white man there has nev-

eternally beating on the shores of "fat meat," and there is no spot in the world where the hog thrives more port, and her stable income from the begun by the government at Fort abundantly than he does in Escambia, great treasures of valuable pine which Pickens will be extended, either by Throughout this entire distance the abundantly than he does in Escambia. river remains a stream of great beautity and large attractiveness, offering here, and those who give a little heed view after view of scenic importance, to breeding and care find that great, to arouse such civic interest as would ment, until an exective barrier is rais-At its broad mouth is the bay of Es- fat porkers can be brought to the ketbody, Pensacola Bay, which jointly stances of hogs dressing as high as supply nearly thirty miles straight. 800 pounds not being out of the rec-

er of Escambia had all his natural along this wide water front wants easily supplied, and, when one

These are not, strictly speaking, part of life where ice and snow and no single bank building today surbayous," but living streams, affected freezing are a part of one yearly itin- passes in beauty of design, in artistic both by the tides and by the inflow- erary. And in addition here he could finish and charm the new white maring volumes of water which swell always eke out his table supplies ble home of the First National bank, their shores. From point to point from the streams and rivers which a structure fit to grace the most fin-and from end to end, each and all of abound and found oysters. Ish and all ished center the world affords. these "bayous" have shores whereon manner of fresh sea food at his com- For generations Pensacola was conmay rest homes and from which no mand, either through his own efforts tent with those examples of the neg

acres, merely by a careful selection of most offensive. One after ano seed, wise enriching of the soil and the greater cities of the sont Time was, and not so many years proper cultivation, the average local suffering dire afflictions oed

I am ashamed to admit that I do acreage of Escambia county; yet to by her prodigal supplies and advan- Pensacola stands by the k not know how many square miles are day many a fruitful farm, many a tages has opposed that material prog-included in the empire of Escambia; stately orchard and profitable "truck" ress which is become a part of our health, and can raise a I do know, however, that the conduct- garden supplies worthy income to modern civilization. And what ob- vent Hosanna! at their orman who attacks our mileage books those who have learned the secret of stacles were to be overcome in order the past. For the comp when we take the Pe-sacola train at treating the soil fairly. And scores to bring about such development as of sewers is finished and Flomaton-getting there our first of men in the county are now well-to- would give to Escambia county a ly be in operation, and the glimpse of Florida across the narrow, do and independent, who have derived firmer hold on the splendid possibili- aunouncement that this is invisible line which separates the two their competence from these once de ties which lurk here because of the city of the past will be effective. states-helps himself to 44 good miles spised acres. It is, and always has climate, the seasons and the great therefrom. And from the depot in this been, merely a matter of adapting ef- crop returns, certain to follow wise having attention and on

are evidences that the cit safe problem that Escambia county is which are possible, some one of which try of what can be done; or nard and to limb and life. five and forty miles long; I suppose may be garnered each month of the field and meadow and garden are on that from 8 to 25 miles of territory twelve, provides for the titler of land every hand and people are rapidly a realized ideal in Pensaco Intervene between the scenic shores in Escambia county that which few coming to discover how readily they every hand, park and plaza of the Escambia river, which follows sections afford; a succession of crops, can bring about greater results and transformed into those cha the eastern configuration of the coun and consequent income certain to become fore-handed from the returns tas which are evidences that

The sparsity of the population of ern confines of the county and those | The ease with which a mere living the county made good roads a seem paved and so changed from portant feature of urban life are on The City of Pensacola.

have as yet elapsed.

ligence with which so many South banished these ancient reli The matter of decent

"The City Beautif...

The main streets are so

The bayshore has fairly bloss within the past eight years, and .

Bay a Valuable Asset. Every one knows of the Bay of Pensacola, and it seems useless to write of lit, and yet it is the most valuable as And yet, after all Escambia county set of Pensacola, and consequently of mous live oaks, their spreading limbs cane crop, as many as 800 gallons of is, to a large extent, Pensacola, and Escambia county. For, bar none, it is ing with festoons of Florida moss syrup having been made from a single to write of the county without touch the proudest body of water possessed ing upon what progress the city is by any city South of New York, and boughs showing on every hand. Here and 300 gallons are regular and admaking would be to present a most this important natural fact must intended imperfectly drawn picture. For this fallibly inure to the greatness of the ancient, and beautiful city has lain metropolis which is desimed to rest for so many generations, content with on its inland shores. Before many her location, her advantages as a years have clapsed the sea wall now originally burdened all this region. civic pride and wisdom, by state or that it seemed well night impossible ganization, or by the general governmake it the city her location warrant- ed against those devastating blasts ed. During the few brief years of which rarely, it is true, find their way which write what changes have oc- thither from the waters of the Caribcurred. Without undertaking to write bean. For, with the example of Galvesin detail one is justified in noting the ton writ large in the history of current Farmers Were Contented.

So with an abundance of corn and insufficient for the combined navies sweets and plenty of pork, the farminate restance in the large in In 1900 not a single roof higher reliance, it should follow in the not be me visibly profitable to include a pleasure.

for Pensacola. It is in the air, talked throng of people whose bulging purses people. on the streets, at church, across aisles assure ample enjoyment of all the at the theatre, in street cars, at table, good things here to be had. on gallery, in fact everywhere where Across Perdido bay a great bridge daily become more apparent that at least two are gathered together. flings its solld length, and over it there must be created, at some point Civic pride, keen interest in a City daily pass regiments of wagons, load- near the Panama canat, which is our Beautiful, sharp wish for better ed with the produce of fertile Bald- greatest reason for a more powerful streets, walks, handsomer yards and win county farms, finding in Pensacola navy-a naval base where there shall and flowers; these are up on all hands adding largely to the merits of the size to admit of caring for our big for discussion. This must result in local markets, the purchases of their gest battleships. This naval base important gain and betterment in the owners swelling the income of the must be of such size as will care for immediate future

What a Decade Will Show. the next decade will show for Escam- lights make it a fairy scene by night, breaks and fractures must be prompt

bia county and for Pensacola. the Hervey, has been completed and abreast with the times. Nor has this departed. been the end of the Setterment foldreds of the well-to-do have found Wright street to Garden, numberless These "imaginings" are today, per-their way here to whom before this Satsuma orange and grapefruit trees haps, a dream, but they are coming ter of the street life of the city, and cream-tinted fruit, to the delight of its rooms are filled each night. These all first-time visitors. visitors have means and it is now possible for them to remain long enough

include Pensacola in their winter itin- show plainly that the owners are par- erary. The charms of the Gulf Coast taking largely of the good things of the persacola in their winter itin- show plainly that the owners are par- taking largely of the good things of the persacola in their winter itin- show plainly that the owners are par- taking largely of the good things of your door, 10c a week.

is now become a place of safety and offer attractions not to be denied. It are freely used for profit and for

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which is the southern terminal of Es- considers the equable and delightful than three stories stood within the far distant future that Pensacola will Day Hotel in Pensacola to the list, . In divers directions from the city to cambia county, and in the center of which nestles the city of Pensacola, a rare rose embowered in living green and amid a wilderness of vines—are modern ideas of thrift and progress a succession of meandering streams, and preferred to continue the even the stream of t This being true why is not the same swift motor boats, now become an intrue of a county or a town? Or at tegral part of city life. Reached by life into her people, and, city and Much good thinking is being done offers accommodations for a thousand, county are become a prominent and right now for Escambia county and and is nightly filled with a happy healthful part of this great American

merchants of the city.

lowing the introduction of the Hervey. ter of Palafox street the efforts for a able to dock and repair, simultaneous ing among the best environments, hun- and situation. Down Palafox, from THE SPOT! city has been merely a spot on the have been set and, each fall and win-true. map; the Hervey has become the center, are laden with their golden and

Up and down the length of the county; from Pensacola to Flomaton; to become familiar with the advan- hills and dales are cleared of the ome a matter of common informa- oranges and other fruits abound, tion in the great centers of the north, while cosy, white houses stand charm. On Organs, \$19 up. and east, and more people of wealth ingly by side of well dired fields and

Tock \$25,000

As a Naval Base. As we increase our navy it will

greater abundance of trees and shrubs worthy market for their crops, and be numerous dry docks of sufficient a full fleet at once. For the modern The majority of the streets of the batleship is a complicated machine. Let us here briefly "imagine" what city are paved and brilliant electric and to maintain its efficiency minor and scores and hundreds of automo- ly repaired. Our command of the an-Our ardently anticipated new hotel, biles flit in and out under the trees, cient Spanish Main-where control of The open sewers are iong since the central and southern parts of this opened. At night the wide corner of vanished and gone (this is no dream, continent was decided for centuries, Palafox and Garden is ablaze with for as I write, across the street from will doubtless be the battle ground light. From the many windows, be- the Blount building workmen are for modern control. Within easy dislow and above for the endre eight tearing out the unsightly ditch which tance of here there must be some stories, and in wide corridor and lob- so long found its nauseous and dis- point whitner a crippled or disabled by, as well as in arcade in front and gusting way down Palafox street, batle ship can be taken and prompt-on the side, these glitter and twinkle, which will have been filled ere these ly repaired. Pensacola, the Mistress and the erstwhile darkness of those lines reach the readers), and no long of the Gulf, with her safe and extenmagnificent corners has vanished and er is the visitor asked to hold his sive Bay, and incomporable means of they become as radiant as day. Crowds nose and shade his eges as he passes approach and departure, affords the throng the portals and fill the walks, up and down our principal streets, place par excellence for such an cffor at last Pensacola has a down town | With this condition has come an absolfair. England is now providing on her public resort where men may meet lute period to fear of fever or epi- northeast coast a second great hos and mingle in a social way and keep demic, for the main cause of these is pital for her wounded war vessels. in which she is investing \$14,000,000. Both at the Plaza and in the cen- When this is completed she will be Because it has now become possible city beautiful are marked. Trees ly, 22 of her largest warships. We for people of means to come to Pen- and shrubs and flowers abound and MUST follow suit for the Mexican sacola and enjoy themselves in liv- multiply the charms of the latitude Gulf control; and PENSACOLA IS

Railroad fares refunded to and from Pensacola to purchasers of Pianos at the Clutugly waste pine wreckage, and now ter Music House. Prices on Gradually the local situation has be thrifty orchards of peach, Satsuma Pianos, special, \$187 to \$850.

Small Portion Only. The African chieftain shook his

Pensacola, Fla.

head haughtily. "The deuce," he said, "with your red calico, glass beads and brass wire. You shall not cross my country, Theodore, unless you pay me my own price.'

"And what may that be?" asked the intrepid hunter. "Half a dollar a word for every line

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